

Serial No.: 10/822,847
Docket No.: 101-1033
Amendment dated: November 28, 2007
Reply to the Office Action of June 28, 2007

REMARKS

Introduction

Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's indication that each of the references cited in the Information Disclosure Statement of February 23, 2006, and April 13, 2004, have been considered.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1-4, 7, 9, 19-24, 27-29, and 31-64 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 7, 19, 22, 27, and 35 have been amended, claims 5-6, 8, 10-18, 25-26, and 30 have been cancelled, and claims 37-64 have been added. No new matter is being presented. In view of the following remarks, reconsideration and allowance of all the pending claims are requested.

1. Objection to claim 22:

On page 2 of the Office Action of June 28, 2007 (hereinafter the "Office Action"), the Examiner objected to claim 22 over an informality. Applicant respectfully submits that claim 22 is currently amended to address the Examiner's concerns. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection are respectfully submitted.

2. Rejection under 35 USC §112, second paragraph:

Claims 14-15 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 14-15 are cancelled. Accordingly, the rejection of these claims is rendered moot.

3. Rejection under 35 USC §102(e): Bald et al.:

Claims 1-5, 11-13, 16, and 25-34 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,744,259 to Bald et al. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection for at least the following reasons.

a. Claim 1:

With respect to independent claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that this claim is currently amended to more clearly define the method of indicating functions of buttons in an

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image display apparatus in order to further distinguish the invention as claimed from the cited documents. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that none of the references cited by the Examiner discloses, teaches, or suggests all of the limitations presently recited in independent claim 1.

In particular, Bald et al. is directed to a safety compliance test instrument which includes a front panel (18) having a plurality of soft keys (1-4) and a display screen (20) capable of displaying menus and prompts that are activated by soft keys 1-4. See, Bald et al., col. 4, lines 26-37. However, as admitted by the Examiner, Bald et al. does not disclose "detecting a pivot angle..." or "displaying the image rotated according to the pivot angle." See Office Action, page 10.

Moreover, Badger also does not teach or suggest the limitations presently recited in this claim, either individually or combined with any of the other cited references. Badger is limited to describing modification of an image provided to a computer display according to a selected orientation of a computer display. See Badger, Col. 2, lines 5-16. However, Badger does not teach positioning a rotated image to correspond to buttons of the display apparatus, and thus, is not combinable with Bald et al. to disclose or teach, among other things, "wherein the image is displayed at a position on the image display apparatus close to the buttons, and wherein the displaying of the image on the image display apparatus further comprises: detecting a pivot angle of the image display apparatus, and displaying the image rotated according to the pivot angle," as recited in independent claim 1.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that since Bald et al. does not teach all of the elements presently set forth in claim 1, this claim is patentably distinguishable from Bald et al. Furthermore, since Badger also does not teach or suggest the limitations presently recited in this claim, either individually or combined with any of the other cited references, the Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 is allowable over all the cited references, and respectfully requests withdrawal of this rejection and allowance of this claim.

b. Claims 2-4:

With respect to dependent claims 2-4, it is respectfully submitted that these claims depend from independent claim 1, which is patentably distinguishable from Bald et al. for at least the reasons provided above. Accordingly, since claims 2-4 contain each of the features as

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presently recited in independent claim 1, dependent claims 2-4 are also patentably distinguishable from Bald et al., and withdrawal of this rejection and allowance of these claims are respectfully solicited.

c. Claims 5, 11-13, 16, and 25-26:

With respect to claims 5, 11-13, 16, and 25-26, it is respectfully submitted that these claims are cancelled. Accordingly, the rejection of these claims is rendered moot.

d. Claim 27:

With respect to independent claim 27, it is respectfully submitted that this claim is currently amended to clarify a generation of the first functions of a first button in order to further distinguish the invention as claimed from the cited documents. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that none of the references cited by the Examiner discloses, teaches, or suggests all of the limitations presently recited in independent claim 27.

In particular, neither Bald et al. nor Badger disclose or teach, either separately or combined, "wherein the generating of the one of the first functions comprises simultaneously generating each set of the first and second functions according to activation of one of the first and second buttons," as presently recited in independent claim 27.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that since Bald et al. does not teach all of the elements presently set forth in claim 27, this claim is patentably distinguishable from Bald et al. Furthermore, since Badger also does not teach or suggest the limitations presently recited in this claim, either individually or combined with any of the other cited references, the Applicant respectfully submits that claim 27 is allowable over all the cited references, and respectfully requests withdrawal of this rejection and allowance of this claim.

e. Claims 28-29 and 31-34:

With respect to dependent claims 28-29 and 31-34, it is respectfully submitted that these claims depend from independent claim 27, which is patentably distinguishable from Bald et al. for at least the reasons provided above. Accordingly, since these claims contain each of the features as presently recited in independent claim 27, dependent claims 28-29 and 31-34 are also patentably distinguishable from Bald et al., and withdrawal of this rejection and allowance

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of these claims are respectfully solicited.

f. Claim 30:

With respect to claim 30, it is respectfully submitted that this claim is cancelled. Accordingly, the rejection of this claim is rendered moot.

4. Rejection under 35 USC §103(a): Badger and Bald et al.:

Claims 7-10 and 14-15 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,973,664 to Badger in view of Bald et al. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection for at least the following reasons.

a. Claim 7:

With respect to independent claim 7, it is respectfully submitted that this claim is currently amended to more clearly define the image display apparatus recited therein to further distinguish the invention as claimed from the cited documents. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that none of the references cited by the Examiner discloses, teaches, or suggests all of the limitations presently recited in independent claim 7.

In particular, as described above, Bald et al. is directed to a safety compliance test instrument which includes a front panel (18) having a plurality of soft keys (1-4) and a display screen (20) capable of displaying menus and prompts that are activated by soft keys 1-4. See, Bald et al., col. 4, lines 26-37. However, as admitted by the Examiner, Bald et al. does not disclose "detecting a pivot angle..." or "displaying the image rotated according to the pivot angle." See Office Action, page 10. Accordingly, Bald et al. does not teach or suggest, among other things, "a pivot detector which detects a pivot angle of the image display apparatus and supplies pivot angle data to the graphics processing unit, wherein: the image display unit has zones to display an image indicating functions assigned to the buttons, and the controller generates image information to be displayed in the zones and supplies the image information to the graphics processing unit, the zones to display an image indicating functions assigned the buttons are displayed at a position on the image display apparatus close to the buttons, and the graphics processing unit displays the image in the zones rotated according to the pivot angle,"

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as presently recited in claim 7.

Moreover, as described above, Badger also does not teach or suggest the limitations lacking in Bald et al. Badger is limited to describing modification of an image provided to a computer display according to a selected orientation of a computer display. See Badger, Col. 2, lines 5-16. Badger does not teach positioning a rotated image to correspond to buttons of the display apparatus, and thus, is not combinable with Bald et al. to disclose or teach, among other things, "a pivot detector which detects a pivot angle of the image display apparatus and supplies pivot angle data to the graphics processing unit, wherein: the image display unit has zones to display an image indicating functions assigned to the buttons, and the controller generates image information to be displayed in the zones and supplies the image information to the graphics processing unit, the zones to display an image indicating functions assigned the buttons are displayed at a position on the image display apparatus close to the buttons, and the graphics processing unit displays the image in the zones rotated according to the pivot angle," as recited in independent claim 7.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that neither Bald et al. nor Badger teach or suggest the limitations presently recited in this claim, either individually or combined, and thus, claim 7 is allowable over these references, and withdrawal of this rejection and allowance of this claim are respectfully requested.

b. Claims 8-15:

With respect to claims 8-15, it is respectfully submitted that these claims are cancelled. Accordingly, the rejection of these claims is rendered moot.

5. Rejection under 35 USC §103(a): Bald et al. and Ruberry et al.:

Claim 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Bald et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,356,287 to Ruberry et al. Applicant respectfully submits that this claim is cancelled. Accordingly, the rejection of this claim is rendered moot.

6. Rejection under 35 USC §103(a): Badger and Bald et al.:

Claims 6, 18-23, and 35-36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Bald et al. in view of Badger. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and

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withdrawal of this rejection for at least the following reasons.

a. Claims 6 and 18:

With respect to claims 6 and 18, it is respectfully submitted that these claims are cancelled. Accordingly, the rejection of these claims is rendered moot.

b. Claim 19:

With respect to independent claim 19, it is respectfully submitted that this claim is currently amended to more clearly define the image display apparatus recited therein to further distinguish the invention as claimed from the cited documents. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that none of the references cited by the Examiner discloses, teaches, or suggests all of the limitations presently recited in independent claim 19.

In particular, as described above, Bald et al. is directed to a safety compliance test instrument which includes a front panel (18) having a plurality of soft keys (1-4) and a display screen (20) capable of displaying menus and prompts that are activated by soft keys 1-4. See, Bald et al., col. 4, lines 26-37. However, as admitted by the Examiner, Bald et al. does not disclose "detecting a pivot angle..." or "displaying the image rotated according to the pivot angle." See Office Action, page 10. Accordingly, Bald et al. does not teach or suggest, among other things, "a pivot detector to detect a pivot angle of the image display unit and to provide the pivot angle detected to the graphics processing unit such that the graphics processing unit supplies an image to the image display unit at a same pivot angle as the image display unit," as presently recited in claim 19.

Further, as described above, Badger also does not teach or suggest the limitations lacking in Bald et al. Badger is limited to describing modification of an image provided to a computer display according to a selected orientation of a computer display. See Badger, Col. 2, lines 5-16. Badger does not teach positioning a rotated image to correspond to buttons of the display apparatus, and thus, is not combinable with Bald et al. to disclose or teach, among other things, "a pivot detector to detect a pivot angle of the image display unit and to provide the pivot angle detected to the graphics processing unit such that the graphics processing unit supplies an image to the image display unit at a same pivot angle as the image display unit," as presently recited in claim 19.

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Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that neither Bald et al. nor Badger teach or suggest the limitations presently recited in this claim, either individually or combined, and thus, claim 19 is allowable over these references, and withdrawal of this rejection and allowance of this claim are respectfully requested.

c. Claims 20-23:

With respect to dependent claims 20-23, it is respectfully submitted that these claims depend from independent claim 19, which is patentable over Bald et al. and Badger for at least the reasons provided above. Accordingly, since these claims contain each of the features as presently recited in independent claim 19, dependent claims 20-23 are also patentably distinguishable over Bald et al. and Badger, either individually or combined, and withdrawal of this rejection and allowance of these claims are respectfully solicited.

d. Claim 35:

With respect to independent claim 35, it is respectfully submitted that this claim is currently amended to more clearly define the image display apparatus recited therein to further distinguish the invention as claimed from the cited documents. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that none of the references cited by the Examiner discloses, teaches, or suggests all of the limitations presently recited in independent claim 35.

In particular, as described above, Bald et al. is directed to a safety compliance test instrument which includes a front panel (18) having a plurality of soft keys (1-4) and a display screen (20) capable of displaying menus and prompts that are activated by soft keys 1-4. See, Bald et al., col. 4, lines 26-37. However, as admitted by the Examiner, Bald et al. does not disclose "detecting a pivot angle..." or "displaying the image rotated according to the pivot angle." See Office Action, page 10. Accordingly, Bald et al. does not teach or suggest, among other things, "a pivot detector to detect a pivot angle of the image display unit and to provide the pivot angle detected to the graphics processing unit such that the graphics processing unit supplies an image to the image display unit at a same pivot angle as the image display unit," as presently recited in claim 35.

Further, as described above, Badger also does not teach or suggest the limitations lacking in Bald et al. Badger is limited to describing modification of an image provided to a

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computer display according to a selected orientation of a computer display. See Badger, Col. 2, lines 5-16. Badger does not teach positioning a rotated image to correspond to buttons of the display apparatus, and thus, is not combinable with Bald et al. to disclose or teach, among other things, "a pivot detector to detect a pivot angle of the image display unit and to provide the pivot angle detected to the graphics processing unit such that the graphics processing unit supplies an image to the image display unit at a same pivot angle as the image display unit," as presently recited in claim 35.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that neither Bald et al. nor Badger teach or suggest the limitations presently recited in this claim, either individually or combined, and thus, claim 35 is allowable over these references, and withdrawal of this rejection and allowance of this claim are respectfully requested.

e. Claim 36:

With respect to dependent claim 36, it is respectfully submitted that this claim depends from independent claim 35, which is patentable over Bald et al. and Badger for at least the reasons provided above. Accordingly, since this claim contains each of the features as presently recited in independent claim 35, dependent claim 36 is also patentably distinguishable over Bald et al. and Badger, either individually or combined, and withdrawal of this rejection and allowance of this claim are respectfully solicited.

7. Rejection under 35 USC §103(a): Badger and Bald et al.:

Claim 24 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Bald et al. in view of Badger and in further in view of Ruberry et al. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection for at least the following reasons.

With respect to claim 24, it is respectfully submitted that this claim depends from independent claim 19, which is allowable over Bald et al. and Badger for at least the reasons provided above. Accordingly, for at least the reason that this claim contains each of the features as presently recited in claim 19, dependent claim 24 is also allowable over these references, either individually or combined. Further, since the Examiner cites Ruberry et al. merely to allege it discloses a second set of buttons, Ruberry et al. does not teach or suggest the limitations of these claims which are lacking in Bald et al. and Badger. Therefore, claim 24

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is allowable over Bald et al., Badger, and Ruberry et al., either separately or combined, and withdrawal of this rejection and allowance of this claim are respectfully requested.

8. New Claims:

New claims 37-64 have been added. Support from new claims 37-64 can be found in the specification and drawings, for example, in FIGS. 4-5 and 8-10 and in paragraphs [0040-0051]. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that new claims 37-64 do not present new matter, and are allowable over the prior art of record, and allowance of these claims is earnestly solicited.

Conclusion

It is respectfully submitted that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, there being no other objections or rejections, this application is in condition for allowance, and a notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided below.

If any further fees are required in connection with the filing of this amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 502827.

Respectfully submitted,

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